

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
18 March 2004 (18.03.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/022458 A2

(51) International Patent Classification⁷:

B65G

(74) Agent: LOCKHART, Thomas, L.; Varnum, Riddering,
Schmidt & Howlett LLP, Bridgewater Place, P.O. Box 352,
Grand Rapids, MI 49501-0352 (US).

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2003/027584

(22) International Filing Date:

4 September 2003 (04.09.2003)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

60/408,149

4 September 2002 (04.09.2002) US

(81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU,
AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU,
CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH,
GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC,
LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW,
MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG,
SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN,
YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM,
KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW),
Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),
European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE,
ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO,
SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM,
GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

(71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*): HER-
MAN MILLER, INC. [US/US]; MS 0442, 855 East Main
Avenue, P.O. Box 302, Zeeland, MI 49464-0302 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (*for US only*): INSALACO,
Robert, W. [US/US]; 415 Goldcrest Drive, Holland,
MI 49424 (US). HOWE, Russel [US/US]; 4343 Ocean
View Blvd., Apartment 179, Montrose, CA 91020 (US).
LONG, James, B. [US/US]; 3345 Breton Valley Dr., S.E.,
Kentwood, MI 49512 (US). HILLIS, Daniel, W. [US/US];
4750 Encino Avenue, Encino, CA 91316 (US).

Published:

— without international search report and to be republished
upon receipt of that report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guid-
ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: RAIL SYSTEM

(57) Abstract: A rail system (100) is disclosed which may be employed within a commercial interior (102). The rail system (100) comprises a series of primary-tracks (130) in a spaced apart configuration. The rail system (100) also comprises a series of cross rails (132) releasably interconnectable to the primary tracks (130). The rail system (100) permits electrical and mechanical interconnections and reconfiguration of electrical and mechanical interconnections, for various functional accessories and communications.

WO 2004/022458 A2